

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A device for supplying whole blood analyzers with tubes of blood, comprising:

an agitator ~~agitating means~~ located upstream of, and external to, at least one analyzer;

first transporting means for transporting the tubes of blood one after the other to the agitator ~~agitating means~~;

second transporting means for transporting the tubes of blood mixed by the agitator ~~agitating means~~, one after another, to a sampling point [[,]] of the analyzer; and

manipulating means for separately picking up the tubes of blood which have not yet been mixed, located in front of the agitator ~~agitating means~~, and placing them in the agitator ~~agitating means~~ to agitate them using the agitator ~~agitating means~~, and for separately removing the tubes of blood from the agitator ~~agitating means~~ and placing them in the second transporting means for the mixed tubes to the sampling point of the analyzer, which makes it possible to use at least one analyzer that has no agitating means.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 18, wherein the first transporting means for transporting the tubes of blood to the agitator ~~agitating means~~ and the second transporting means for transporting the mixed tubes to the sampling point of the analyzer include one and the same conveyor.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 18, wherein the first transporting means for transporting the tubes of blood to the agitator ~~agitating means~~ and the

second transporting means for transmitting the mixed tubes to the sampling point of the analyzer include different conveyors.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 20, wherein the first transporting means comprises a main conveyor for transporting the not yet mixed tubes to the agitator ~~agitating means~~, whereas the second transporting means comprises secondary conveyors for transporting the tubes mixed by the agitator ~~agitating means~~ to the sampling point of the analyzer.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 21, wherein the agitator ~~is agitating means~~ are located respectively on a secondary conveyor upstream of the sampling point of the analyzer.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 18, wherein the tubes have identifying means, and further comprising reading means for reading the identifying means of the tubes, thus enabling each tube to be directed towards an analyzer depending on the type of analysis specified by the identifying means.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 18, wherein the agitator ~~agitating means~~ comprises a manipulating arm provided with a gripper for taking hold of the tubes on the first transporting means and agitating the tubes by rotating the gripper about the longitudinal axis of the manipulating arm.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 18, wherein the agitator ~~agitating means~~ comprises a cylinder or barrel that enables a free indentation to be positioned

vertically with respect to a tube which is to be agitated, placed on the first transporting means.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 18, wherein the agitator ~~agitating means~~ comprises a plurality of wheels aligned along a same rotation axis inside a housing, and the wheels are provided with indentations for accommodating tubes that are to be agitated.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 18, wherein the first and/or second transporting means take the form of a conveyor belt.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 27, wherein each tube fits inside a support member located inside the first and/or second transporting means.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 26, further comprising a manipulating arm for introducing the tubes, one by one, into the agitator ~~agitating means~~.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 29, wherein the manipulating arm comprises a gripper for gripping the tubes on the first transporting means to fit the tubes into the free indentations in the wheels of the agitator ~~agitating means~~ and to grip the tubes to remove the tubes from the indentations and place the tubes on the second transporting means.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 26, wherein each indentation in the wheels of the agitator ~~agitating means~~ is configured to accommodate a tube mounted on a support.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A device according to claim 29, wherein the manipulating arm comprises an electromagnetic module for adhering the tube support to the end of the manipulating arm each time it is necessary to manipulate a tube.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A device according to claim 18, wherein the first transporting means, the second transporting means, and the agitating means are a single component.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): Analysis line comprising a supply device according to claim 33.